

Setting up of Steel Plant

2412. SHRI MADHABA SARDAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Nayagarh Steel Plant at Bileipada, Barsratpur in Orissa keeping in view the lot of iron ore mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (c). The Union Government do not have any proposal at present to set up any steel plant at Bileipada, Barsratpur in Orissa. However, according to information available from the State Government of Orissa, the following three companies have proposed to set up iron and steel plants at Bileipada and Nayagarh in District Keonjhar in Orissa :

Name of the Unit & Location	Capacity (Million TPA)
National Steel Industries Ltd.	Ph. I : 0.88 (Steel)
Nayagarh, District Keonjhar	Ph. II : 1.20 (-do-)
Mid West Iron and Steel Ltd.	Ph. I : 0.20 (Pig Iron)
Bileipada, District Keonjhar	Ph. II 0.50 (Steel)
Asian Alloys Limited	Ph. I : 0.50 (Pig Iron)
Bileipada, District Keonjhar.	Ph. II : 1.00 (-do-)

Funds to N.M.F.D.C.

2413. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds have been released to the National Minorities Finance and Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of amount released; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The Central Government have contributed Rs. 89 crores towards the equity of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has contributed Rs. 7 crores towards its equity and the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have contributed Rs. 1 crore each. The other State Governments have been requested to participate in the equity of the Corporation.

Recommendations by National Action Forum

2414. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Action Forum for social justice since worked out a series of recommendations for ensuring the economic self-

reliance, equality of opportunities for the population belonging to other backward classes;

(b) if so, the essential features of the recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Action Forum for Social Justice has recommended reservation in Educational Institutions for OBCs and introduction of Welfare scheme for OBCs like Post-Matric Scholarship, Residential Schools for OBC Boys and Girls, Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls, Overseas Scholarship, Leases, Licence and Permits for stone and sand quarries etc. where OBCs are engaged to be given to OBCs only, constitution of Expert Committee to work out meaningful and integrated models for the development of backward classes, setting up of Aarakshan Nyaya Adalats, constitutional amendment to introduce the words "development and welfare of backward classes" in the list-III of concurrent list, etc.

(c) The Government is examining the feasibility of implementation of these recommendations and their financial implications.

Development of Villages under Ambedkar Villages scheme

2415. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of villages particularly in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh identified for development under the Ambedkar Villages Scheme during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the financial allocation made in each of the last two years;

(c) whether the drinking water, school, electricity and health facilities have been provided in the villages under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Demand to Rename Sahar and Santacruz Airports

2416. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a public demand to rename Sahar Airport and Santacruz Airport as Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport and J.R.D. Tata Airport respectively; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra had

sent a request to rename the Santacruz after the name of late JRD Tata and the Sahar International airport after Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

(b) The Central Government has already decided in 1988 to rename Bombay Airport as Jawaharlal Nehru International Airport after bringing it to international standards.

[Translation]

Food Security Policy

2417. LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to work out an appropriate Food Security Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). An appropriate policy on Food Security in the country is already under operation. The present policy provides for minimum support prices to the farmers for their produce; procurement by the public agencies of wheat, rice and coarse grains offered at the minimum support prices; and supply of adequate foodgrains to the States/UTs for distribution through the public distribution system. The policy also envisages maintenance of minimum buffer stocks of rice and wheat in the country on different dates in a year.

(c) In view of answer to (a) and (b) above, question does not arise.

Telecommunication facilities in Manipur

2418. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any Plan to provide telephone facilities at District/Sub-Divisional Headquarters in Manipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of District and Sub-Divisional Headquarters which have been provided/not provided with this facility in the State, so far; and

(d) the time by which all the District/Sub-Divisional Headquarters are likely to be provided with such facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Telephone facility has been provided at all the 8 District Headquarters and 14 out of 30 Sub-Divisional Headquarter of Manipur. All the remaining

16 Sub-Divisional Headquarters are planned to be provided with telephone facility during the current year 1996-97. These 16 Sub-Divisional Headquarters are :

Chapikarong, Chinghat, Henglep, Porompat, Kamjong, Kasemkhullen, Nungba, Paomata, Phungyar, Saikul, Thinghat, Tadubi, Tamei, Thanlon, Tipaimikh, Tousem.

Tourism Spots in Gujarat

2419. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the tourism spots in Gujarat especially in Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat which are not yet linked by air or rail; and

(b) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to link these places by air, rail or roads?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) :

(a) There are several tourist spots identified by the State Government in Gujarat including Saurashtra-Kutch region. However, tourist spots which are presently airlined are Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Bhuj, Jamnagar, Kandla, Keshod, Porbandar, Rajkot and Vadodra.

Modhera, where a sun Temple is situated does not have a rail line, but is connected by road and is served by Mehsana rail head. However, Dwarka, Porbandar, Veraval, Junagarh, Chorwad, Palitana, Kosad, DIU and Sasangir are major tourist centres in Saurashtra/Kutch region of Gujarat State and are linked by rail and road.

(b) The linkage of tourist places by air depends upon the commercial viability. Similarly, linkage of tourist places by rail is based on the availability of resources and inter-se priority as also specific requests from the State Governments.

[Translation]

Production of Steel

2420. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether locations have been identified for setting up the new iron and steel projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targetted annual production of steel during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). The "Guidelines for Entrepreneurs in Iron and Steel Industry" issued by the Government in October, 1992 identified 25 possible sites in the country for setting up new iron and steel projects and coke making plants. These include 2 in Andhra Pradesh, 2 in Bihar, 1 in Goa, 3 in Gujarat, 2 Karnataka, 3 in Maharashtra, 6 in Madhya Pradesh, 3 in Orissa, 1 Uttar Pradesh and 2 in West Bengal. No specific sites were indicated for steel